

## Lesson IX.

## THE GOSPEL IN SAMARIA

February 28, 1909

Acts 8 : 14-25. Study Acts 8 : 4-25—Memory Verses, 14, 15.

**Golden Text**—The people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.—Acts 8 : 6.



14 Now when the apostles which were at Jeru'salem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Pe'ter and John :

15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost :

16 (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them : only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Je'sus.)

17 Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

18 And when Si'mon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money.

19 Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.

20 But Pe'ter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.

21 Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter : for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.

22 Repent therefore of this thy wicked-

ness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.

23 For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity.

24 Then answered Si'mon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me.

25 And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jeru'salem, and preached the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.

## THE LESSON RETOLD

On account of the cruel persecutions, many of the disciples fled from Jerusalem. Wherever they went, they told the people of Jesus. Philip, who, like Stephen, was one of the seven deacons, went down to the city of Samaria, and preached to the people there. The miracles which he did, so filled the people of the city with wonder, that they listened to all that he said. For unclean spirits, when he commanded them, came out of those whom they had been tormenting, and the helpless and lame were made well. And there was great joy in the city, and many believed and were baptized.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard this, they sent Peter and John to help Philip in his work, who, when they came to Samaria, prayed that the Holy Spirit might be given to all those who had believed. Then they laid their hands on their heads, and God sent His Holy Spirit into them.

Now there was at Samaria a man named Simon, who, before that time, had deceived the people by pretending that he could do things for them by magic, until they all listened to his words, and said, "This man must have power given him of God". But when Philip began to preach the gospel in Samaria and many believed and were baptized, Simon also came, and said that he, too, believed, and asked to be baptized. So Philip baptized him, and he continued with Philip, wondering at the miracles which he did.

But when Peter and John came from Jerusalem, and Simon saw that, by the laying on of their hands, the Holy Spirit was given to those who believed, he went to them and offered to pay them money, if they would give him also, the power to bring down God's Holy Spirit from heaven upon any person upon whom he might lay his hands.